FLOWER COMICS
Betsucomi

soon, I won't be able to see you...

Rakuen

RAKUJIN

Sakurakouji Kanoko

Rakuen Sakurakouji Kanoko

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A project scanlated by Midnight Scans and Watamme Shoujo

Betsucomi

Summary:

Nana, a 16-year-old girl, has had a happy relationship for 1 year with an University student named Shugo. Though, it all comes to a halt, when a doctor tells her that in 6 months, she will become completely blind. While her condition worsens everyday, she decides not to tell Shugo anything because she fears she will be pitied. Will their love be able to survive this tragedy or will it go all downhill?

• Stories Included: / Rakuen / Summer Rain / The Smiling Doll

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+ Please ask before hosting one or more of our projects;
+ Please have fun and enjoy our smutty releases!

- Midnight Scans Staff

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Why don't you help out?

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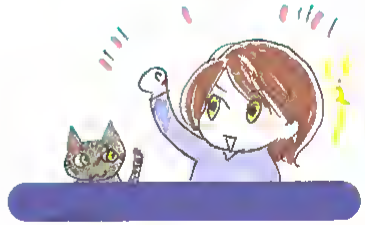
Take the matter into your own hands! The more we are, the faster we can get new releases out!!



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Sakurako Ujiie Kanoko

Rakuen

* Betsucomi Flower Comics

Rakuen

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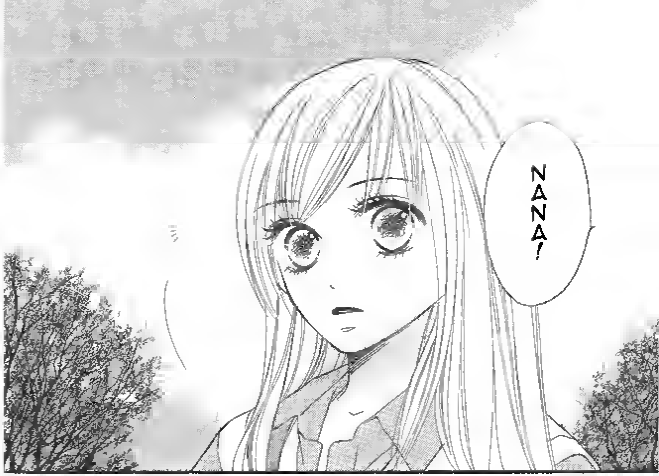
Chapter 3

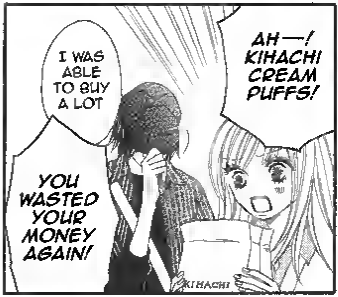
Hello,
I'm Sakurakouji kanoko.
Thank you for picking up this book.

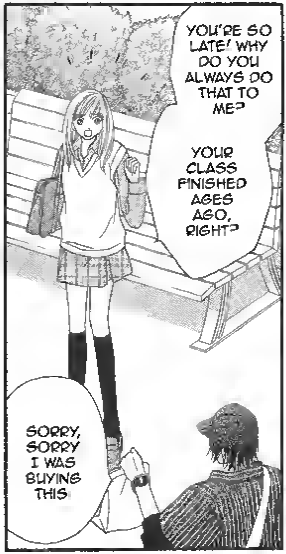
Even now,
this disturbance
won't disappear
from my heart.

If there is such a
thing as paradise
in this world,

it would
surely be


NANA!


AH—! KIHACHI CREAM PUFFS!
I WAS ABLE TO BUY A LOT
YOU WASTED YOUR MONEY AGAIN!
KIHACHI


YOU'RE SO LATE! WHY DO YOU ALWAYS DO THAT TO ME?
YOUR CLASS FINISHED AGES AGO, RIGHT?
SORRY, SORRY I WAS BUYING THIS

WEREN'T YOU PLANNING ON SAVING SOME MONEY FOR TRAVELING EXPENSES?
WELL, YEAH, BUT .

...YOU LIKE THEM, DON'T YOU?
I've been going out with Shougo for over a year now,
and yet that smile of his still makes me weak.
When we met,
we were at the same beach down south.
Even though I thought I'd never see him again, I couldn't forget him.
Keep Off

That's when I thought, "Maybe there is a God."
Then, when I started at high school, I saw him pass by
SHOUGO, IT'S DRIPPING, IT'S DRIPPING!
WHAT?
.....
NOTHING, IT'S JUST THAT...
AH! IT'S ALL STICKY!
YOU HAVE TO WIPE IT OFF BEFORE IT STAINS
GEEZ! YOU'RE LIKE A LITTLE KID.
I'D BE PRETTY MESSED UP, IF I DIDN'T HAVE YOU

YEAH, FOR US TO CROSS PATHS WITH EACH OTHER AGAIN IT HAS TO BE FATE
I THINK WE WERE KIND OF FATED TO BE TO-GETHER
Hair embarrassment!
WELL,
...I CAN'T... BELIEVE YOU CAN SAY THOSE SORTS OF THINGS WHILE SOBER
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M A TOTAL ROMANTIC
FADES...
ARE YOU SERI-OUS?!
WHERE'D YOU GET THAT LINE FROM?!
NANA-CHAN
NA...
NANA?

WHAT'S WRONG?
MY VISION WENT ALL FUZZY FOR A MOMENT
IT'S BETTER NOW.
ARE YOU OKAY? SHOULD WE GO TO THE HOSPITAL?
I'M FINE
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I'VE BEEN WORN OUT LATELY
AH, THAT'S RIGHT
YOU'RE AIMING FOR THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS ME
THAT'S RIGHT
FOR YOU TO GET INTO THAT SORT OF SCHOOL, THERE
I'M TOTALLY CLEAN!
On days that Shougo's not working, I'd wait for him at the park.
Sundays are usually the day we go out
At night, we talk to each other on our phones

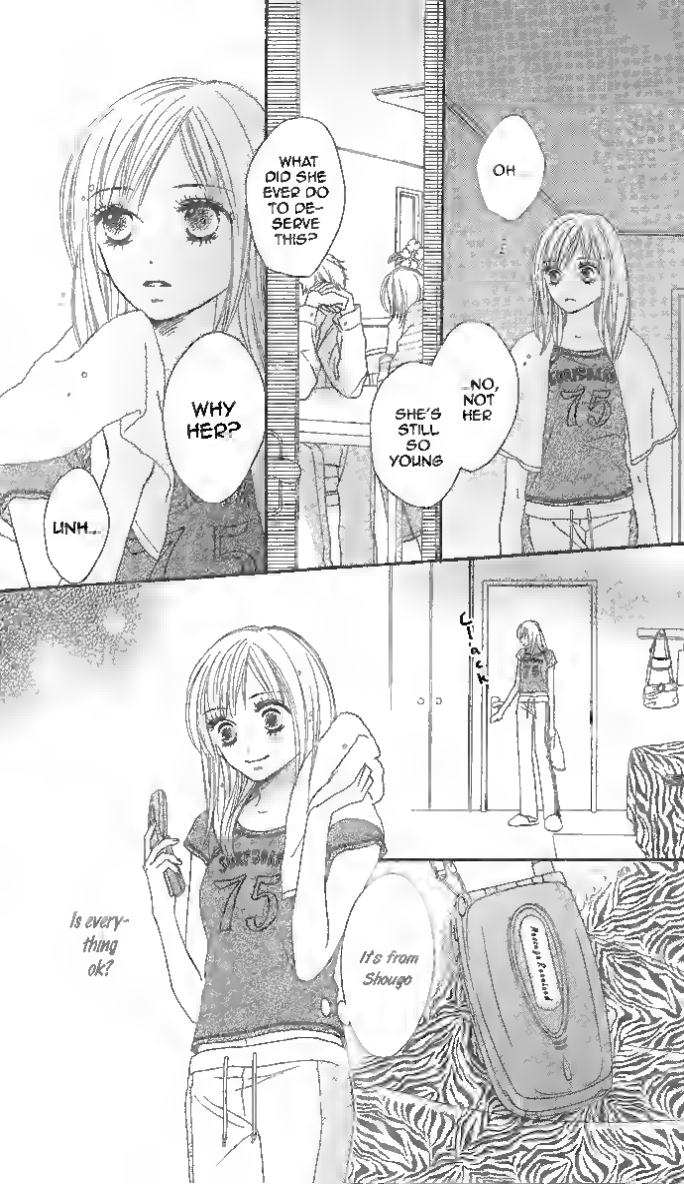
I spent my 16th spring like this; it was so blissful
I had no doubt in my mind that everyday would be like that,
however...
SENSEI',
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

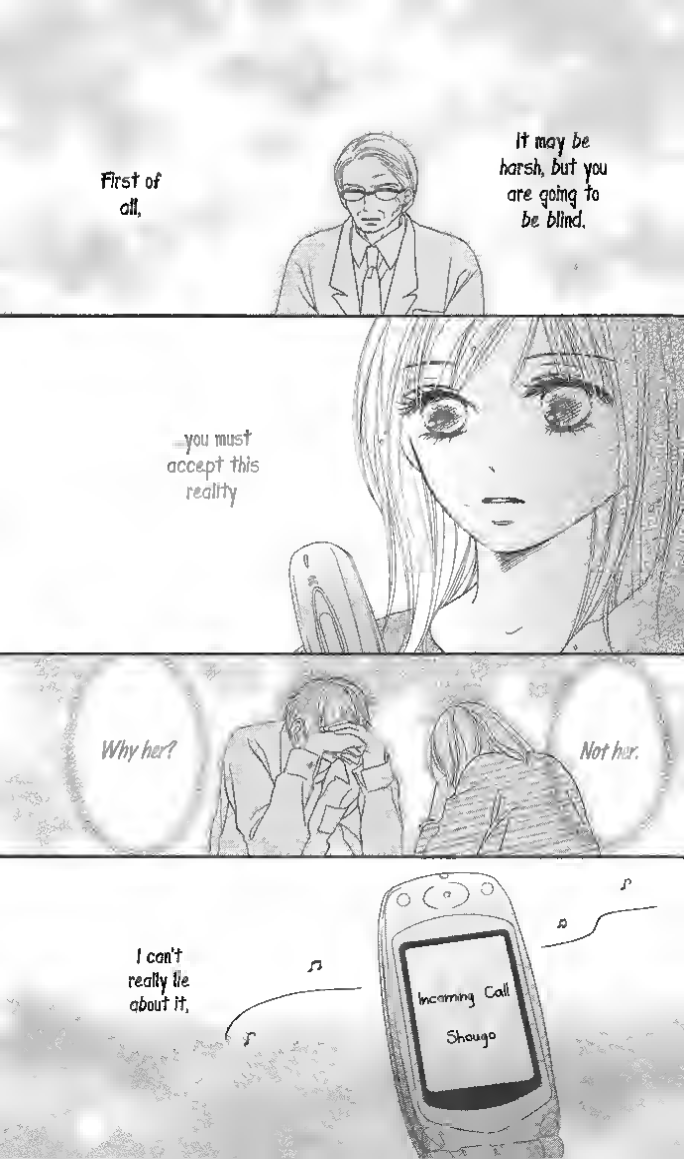
OPHTHALMOLOGY
1
2
LIKE I SAID, IT'S UNFORTUNATE,
BUT ACCORDING TO OUR TESTS,
YOU HAVE ABOUT HALF A YEAR...
...BEFORE YOU ARE COMPLETELY BLIND.

I'm going to be blind?
NO, SENSEI!
THERE'S TREATMENT, RIGHT?!
SURGERY?!
WITH REGARD TO THIS SORT OF ILLNESS,
THERE'S REALLY NOTHING WE CAN DO
...won't I be able to see?
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?

BUT RIGHT NOW,
I CAN SEE YOU PERFECTLY
.....
YOUR EYESIGHT HAS BEEN WAVERING FROM TIME TO TIME, RIGHT?
FROM NOW ON, THE TIME IN BETWEEN EPISODES WILL BECOME SMALLER,
AND THE SEVERITY OF THEM WILL GRADUALLY INCREASE
NANA!
NANA ...!

I'M NOT KIDDING.
Waaaaah!
YOU WILL BECOME BLIND.


UNH...
WHY HER?
WHAT DID SHE EVER DO TO DESERVE THIS?
SHE'S STILL SO YOUNG
NO, NOT HER
OH
SKATEBOARD
75
CLICK
Is everything ok?
It's from Shougo


First of all,
It may be harsh, but you are going to be blind.
...you must accept this reality
Why her?
Not her.
I can't really lie about it,
Incoming Call
Shougo

...but when it came down to telling him about it
I just couldn't say anything
NANA—?
YOU SEEM DOWN, DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
NO—
IT'S NOTHING—
ON THE WAY HERE,
THERE'S A RAILWAY CROSS-ING, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHEN I THOUGHT,
AH, THIS IS THE CAUSE OF MY LATE-NESS
Isn't that a bad excuse?
BOOKS

AH!
IT'S TOO SOON, THOUGH
FOUND SOMETHING GOOD?
NNN
IT'S ALL SO EXPENSIVE
HEEEH, THIS WAS TURNED INTO A MOVIE
SHOUGO, YOU READ THE NOVEL?
A FRIEND LENT IT TO ME SO I GAVE IT A TRY IT WAS REALLY INTERESTING
WE SHOULD SEE THE MOVIE, IT'S COMING OUT NEXT SPRING
NEXT SPRING

...by then, it will already——...
DO YOU WANT TO READ IT?
IF YOU WANT, I'LL LEND IT TO YOU.
IS THAT OKAY?
HUH?
WHY ARE YOU IN A DAZE?
AH!
CASHIER
WERE YOU LISTENING TO A SINGLE THIN
THUD
RUSTLE RUSTLE
.....
THE ONE IN A DAZE IS YOU!
I'M SORRY, SO SORRY!

I won't be able to go out with him like this
In the future,
If I tell him,
SHOUGO...?
MY
MY EYES...
MMM?

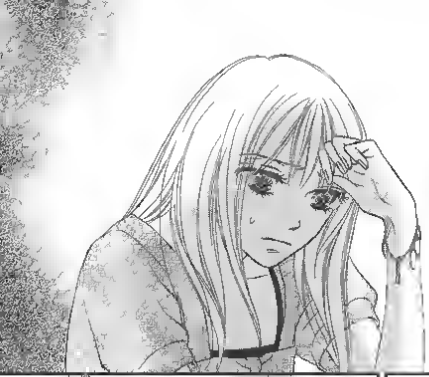
He might tell me it's all too hard...
Will he be troubled by it...?
...what sort of expression will he show me?
If I tell him...
He'd tell me he's sorry...

EHHHH! YOU'VE BEEN REALLY STRANGE TODAY.
I'm a bit worried
NO, I'M FINE
MY HEAD IS HURTING A BIT, SO I THINK I'LL GO HOME NOW
EH YOU ALL RIGHT?
NO, IT'S FINE
THEN, I'LL WALK YOU HOME
SEE YOU LATER
...would he ask to break up with me?
IT'S NOTHING
I'm scared.
I can't say it.

YOUR EYESIGHT HAS BECOME HAZIER?
YES.
I SEE
HAVE YOU EXPERIENCE ANY HEADACHES LATELY?
YES A LITTLE
PLEASE COME IN NEXT WEEK.
ALSO MAKE SURE TO REST YOUR EYES WHENEVER POSSIBLE.
AND,
What should I do...?
NANA, AREN'T YOU GOING TO EAT?
NOPE, I'M ALREADY FULL.
You can have it.
YOU SUGGESTED THIS PLACE,
AND I TOLD YOU THAT
I DIDN'T PLAN ON EATING ANYTHING SWEET.
You're the one with a sweet tooth!

Not again
Stupid eyes
AH, NANA!
LOOK AT THAT!
EH?

AHAHAHA!
LOOK, OVER THERE!
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
Ah, it's so funny
WHAT KIND OF COSTUMES ARE THOSE?
AH, YEAH
IT'S FUNNY
.....
NANA?


If I keep hiding it, I'm going to get found out

ARE YOU TIRED?
SIGNS

I know this, but——.

If he knew about my eyes,
ACTUALLY, YOU LOOK REALLY PALE.
Pat Pat
I'M SORRY, FOR PUSHING YOU LIKE THIS.

I'LL SEND YOU HOME.
I don't think he'd be able to break up with me
this kind person,
Rattle
.....
and say things like "poor thing"

But I'm trying to tie him to me like a spoilt child,
...so really the "poor thing" is really him.

He won't...
be hearing anything from me.
WELL,
I'M JUST GOING TO MAKE A QUICK STOP TO THE REST-ROOM
SHOUGO,
LET'S BREAK UP

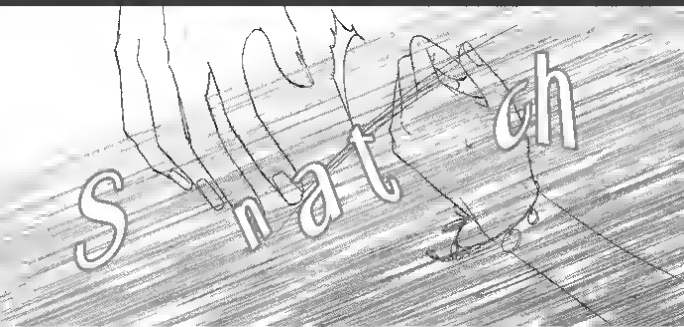
BREAK UP..
..WITH ME.
NANA!
NA—
CLATTER
I DON'T TELL THOSE KIND OF JOKES
THAT—
THAT'S A BAD JOKE, NANA!

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?!
WAIT UP, NANA!
GRAB
BUT WHY...?
SNATCH
WHAT THE HELL...?!
I KNOW I'M ALWAYS CAUSING YOU TROUBLE,
AND LATELY YOU'VE BEEN ACTING KIND OF STRANGE

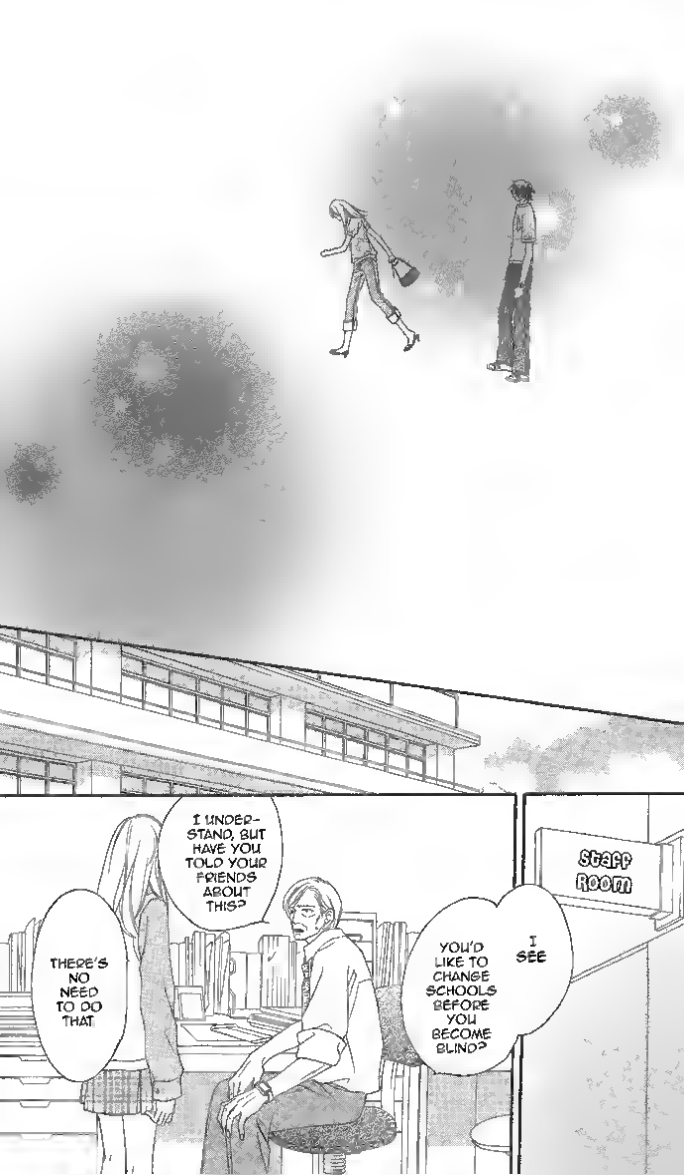
NA
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
IF YOU THINK I'M WEIRD, THEN THAT'S FINE WITH ME!
Trip
Shock
Huff
Huff
THUD

No..

I have to do this right.——————



I GET IT


I SEE
YOU'D LIKE TO CHANGE SCHOOLS BEFORE YOU BECOME BLIND?
I UNDERSTAND, BUT HAVE YOU TOLD YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THIS?
THERE'S NO NEED TO DO THAT
STAFF ROOM

I DON'T WANT THEM TO FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE AROUND ME
LAUGH
Ahaha

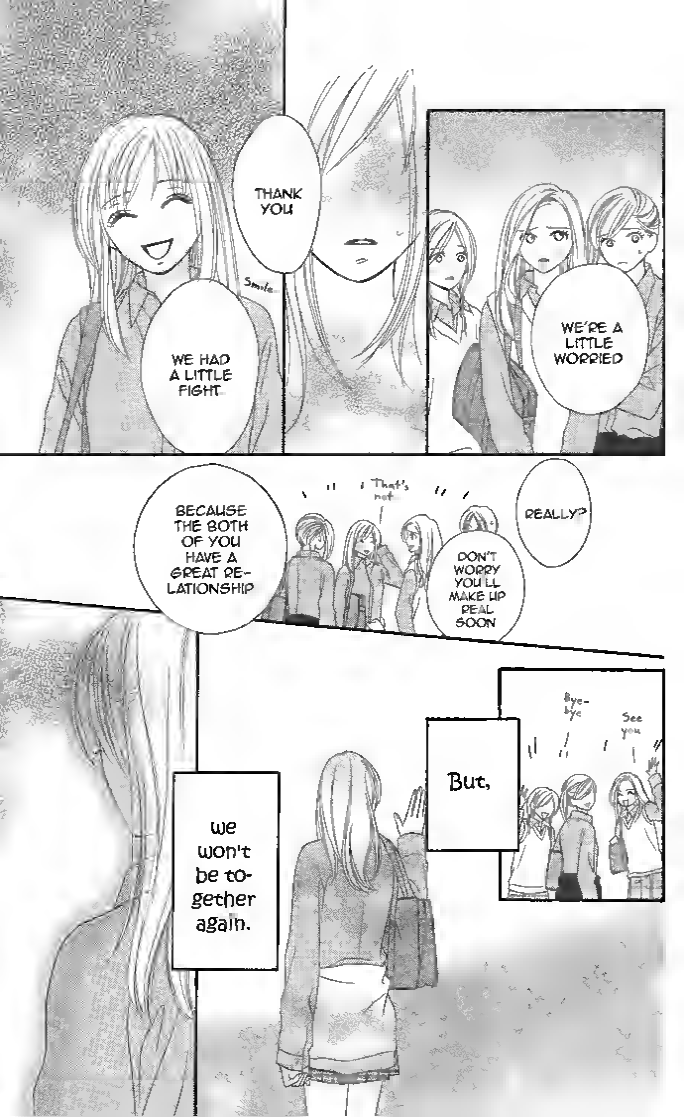
You're not allowed to walk there.
UM, TANAKA.
OK, THE NEXT PERSON TO READ.
Ehhh.. Is that so?
But the view is better from here.
Look.
the sign fell down.
What are you doing?!
Ahahaha!

Now, you're guilty too.
NANA
THAT SHOP YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT BEFORE,
WHERE IS IT?
YOU SAID THAT YOU'D TAKE US.
AH! TODAY'S THURSDAY, SO NANA'S
IT'S OK
LET'S GO.
.....
Huh?

You're the girl I met in Okinawa, right?
For us to meet each other again, it must be fate!
BOOKS
Found it! Found it!
HERE, HERE!
AH!
WE MISSED IT BY ONE STREET

KIHACHI
Though, you looked like you wanted to go in
but you still couldn't go in.
The sign had fell down,
KIHACHI

From you,
that abrasiveness was so cute.
I'm glad I met you.
NANA!
GASP!
AH, SORRY, WHAT?
NANA, YOU'RE ACTING KIND OF STRANGE
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN WITH SHOUGO-SENPAI?
AREN'T YOU USUALLY WITH HIM TODAY?


THANK YOU
Smile
WE HAD A LITTLE FIGHT
WE'RE A LITTLE WORRIED
That's not
REALLY?
DON'T WORRY YOU'LL MAKE UP REAL SOON
BECAUSE THE BOTH OF YOU HAVE A GREAT RELATIONSHIP
Bye-bye
See you
But,
we won't be together again.

I didn't mean to hurt him.
.....
SORRY
I'M SORRY

...Go back
to that time
...
We can't...

Fade...
KAN-KAN!
Ah!
Tatun
Tatun
Kan kan!
Kankan!
TSK!
kan
kan!

The train...
Tatan Tatan
Tatan Tatan
Oh, no...
Where is it?!
I can't move...
NANA!!

Whoosh
Rattle
Clang
Rattle
Clang
Hell
Hell
Hell
Hell
NANA

Shougo
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
TSK!
AH, THANK...
!

LET GO
NO.
.....
Wait a second...
I LET GO OF YOUR HAND LAST TIME,
AND I REGRETTED IT SO MUCH THAT I FELT LIKE I COULD DIE

Why were you standing right there?
I can't just ask him,
No, can't be—
I HEARD ...
ABOUT YOUR EYES.

BUT,
..HOW IN THE WORLD IS THAT A REASON TO BREAK UP?!
DO..
YOU THINK THAT I'M PITI-FUL?!
WHY WOULD YOU THINK THAT?!
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT SO EASILY?
—

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW HARD THIS WILL GET!
I HAVE NO CLUE,
BUT WE CAN HANDLE THIS!!
EVER SINCE YOU BROKE UP WITH ME,
EVERY DAY HAS BEEN A STRUGGLE
I COULDN'T GIVE UP ON YOU,
SO I WENT TO YOUR HOUSE
I CAN'T TAKE ANY-MORE OF THIS

I'D RATHER SUPPORT YOU WHILE YOU'RE BLIND.
TSK!
AND GO THROUGH ALL THE HARDSHIPS INSTEAD OF LOSING YOU!!
NANA,
I LOVE YOU

Soon
I...

...won't be able to see this person
That smile...
I love it so much.

I won't be able to see anymore
It's finally getting to me
Gr ii p

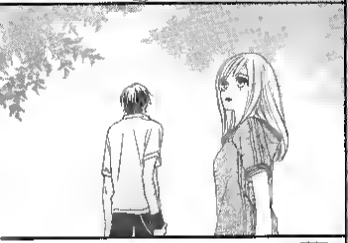
NO
...
踏切注意

NANA
NO!
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO SEE YOU!!
I DON'T WANT TO BE BLIND!
You
PLEASE!

...will go blind.

No matter how much I wished,

I wasn't granted a miracle.



The way the light hits the leaves...
Up until now, I hadn't been looking properly
the world became so beautiful
I THINK I'LL GET MY DRIVER'S LI-CENSE
EH? CAN YOU DO THAT?
A WHILE BACK I EXPECT IT'LL BE A BIT DIFFI-CULT
ISN'T IT EXPEN-SIVE AND TIME-CONSUM-ING?
THAT'S NOT IT!
WHAT'S THAT SUP-POSED TO MEAN?!
Of course I can get in!
NANA

I WANT TO SHOW YOU BEAUTIFUL SCENERIES,
BUT, I WANT TO SHOW YOU A LOT OF WONDERFUL THINGS.
PAINTINGS, BUILDINGS, AND NOT JUST THIS PARK.
I WANT TO TAKE YOU TO PLACES WITH BRILLIANT COLORS
IF I HAVE A CAR IT'LL BE A LOT EASIER.
I DON'T NEED THAT
WHAT THE ?!
I'M JUST
WHEN YOU GO BACK AND FORTH FROM SCHOOL

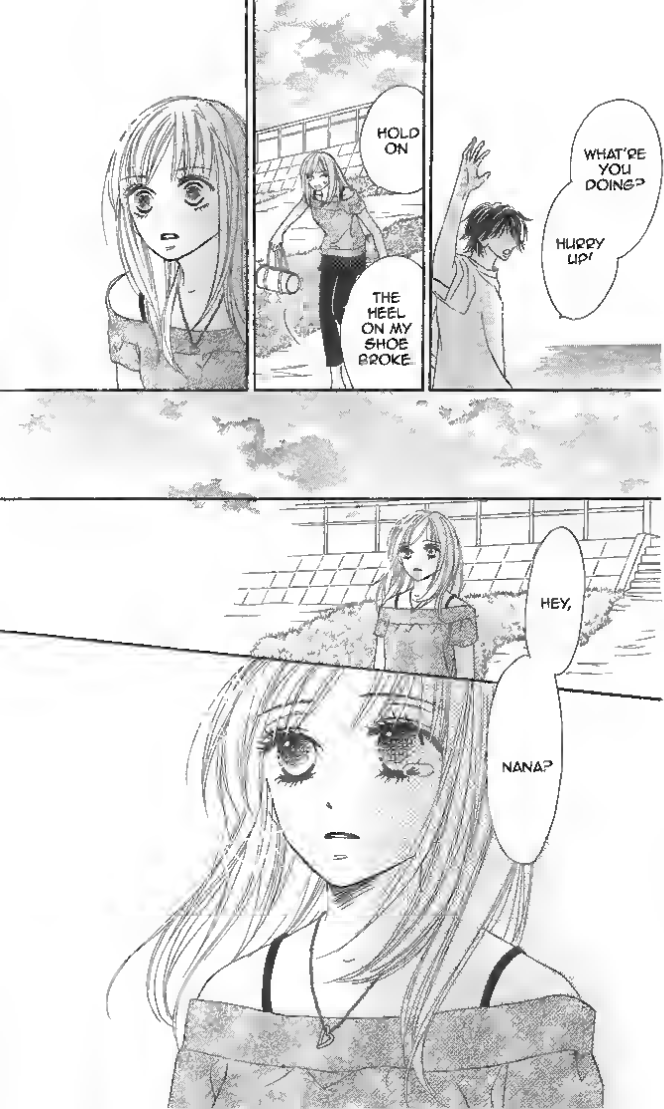
SO
WE CAN GET SPEND TIME TOGETHER THEN!
FOR ME,
Everything is already...
...very pretty.
IF I'M WITH YOU,
EVERYTHING LOOKS THE SAME.
THE ONLY THING I WANT IS TO,
RIGHT UP UNTIL THE END,
I JUST WANT TO SEE YOU!

ALL RIGHT, THEN,
WE'LL DO EVERY-THING TO-GETHER
So that we can make all these plans, I quickly quit school,
...and Shougo even de-ferred his classes.
WHAT WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING?!
IT'S NO BIG DEAL! IT'S ONLY HALF A YEAR!

Clack
Kattle
Clack
Kattle
Clack
Kattle
Clack
Kattle
UM, NEXT STOP IS
.....
SHOUGO, WAKE UP! WAKE UP!
THE END OF THE LINE
THIS IS THE LAST STOP
EH?

SAITAMA
WHERE ARE WE?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU SLEPT THE WHOLE WAY!
YOU WERE SLEEPING TOO!
I ASKED YOU IF IT WAS OKAY IF I SLEPT!
YOU WERE ASLEEP, SO I COULDN'T HELP BUT FALL ASLEEP
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I THOUGHT!
NN...
PAUSED
I SMELL SEA SALT
WAAA!
I KNEW IT WAS THE OCEAN!

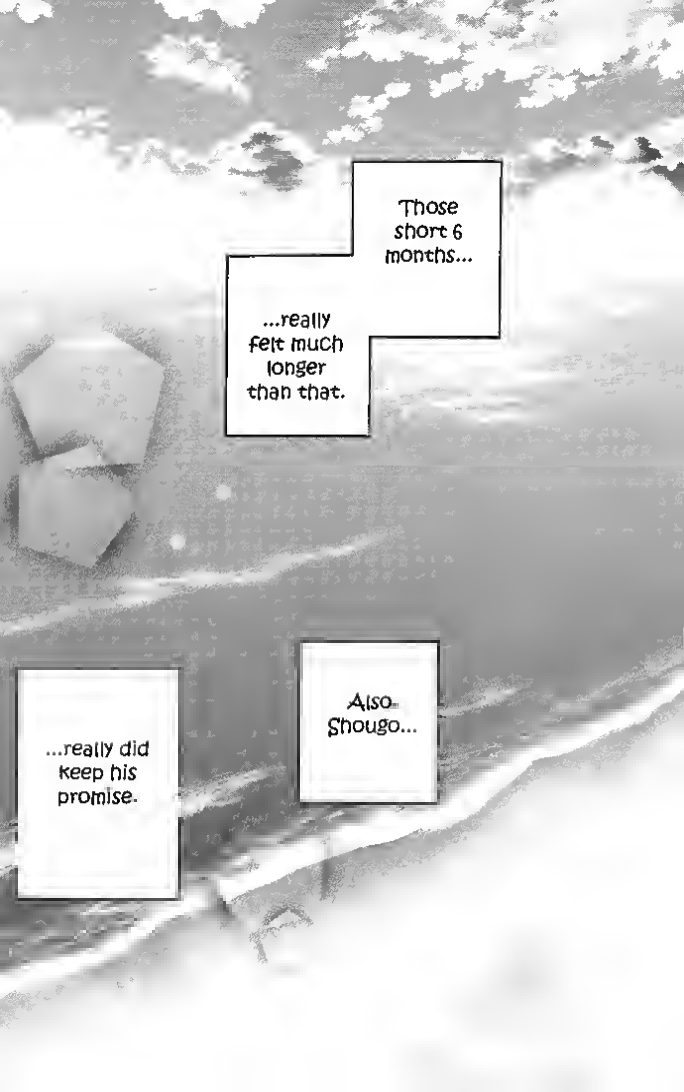
IT'S THE BEACH! ♡
DASHDASHDASHDASH
Brat.
THE SUN-SET'S REALLY BRIGHT
SHOULD WE WATCH IT UNTIL IT DISAP-PEARS?
Excited! Excited!
IF WE DO WE'LL BE LATE GET-TING BACK HOME!
TSK!
THEN LET'S PLAY IN THE WATER,
COME HERE!
Stomp Stomp
WA!
AH!
Wobble ☆


WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
HURRY UP!
HOLD ON
THE HEEL ON MY SHOE BROKE
HEY,
NANA?

I'M FINE
DO YOUR EYES HURT?
WHAT'S WRONG?
I was fated to become blind.
...and it was also fate that brought this person to me.
HEY, SHOUGO
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK
NNN?
They are both kinds of fate, some are good and some are
I...

WHEN I LOSE MY SIGHT,
UP UNTIL THE VERY LAST MOMENT.
WOULD YOU BE HERE WITH ME?
YES...
EH?! NO WAY!
I THOUGHT IT WAS A BIG RE-QUEST.
I just wanted to try saying it
I'M A ROMAN-TIC, THAT'S WHY
I told you that was.
I...
...will embrace my fate.

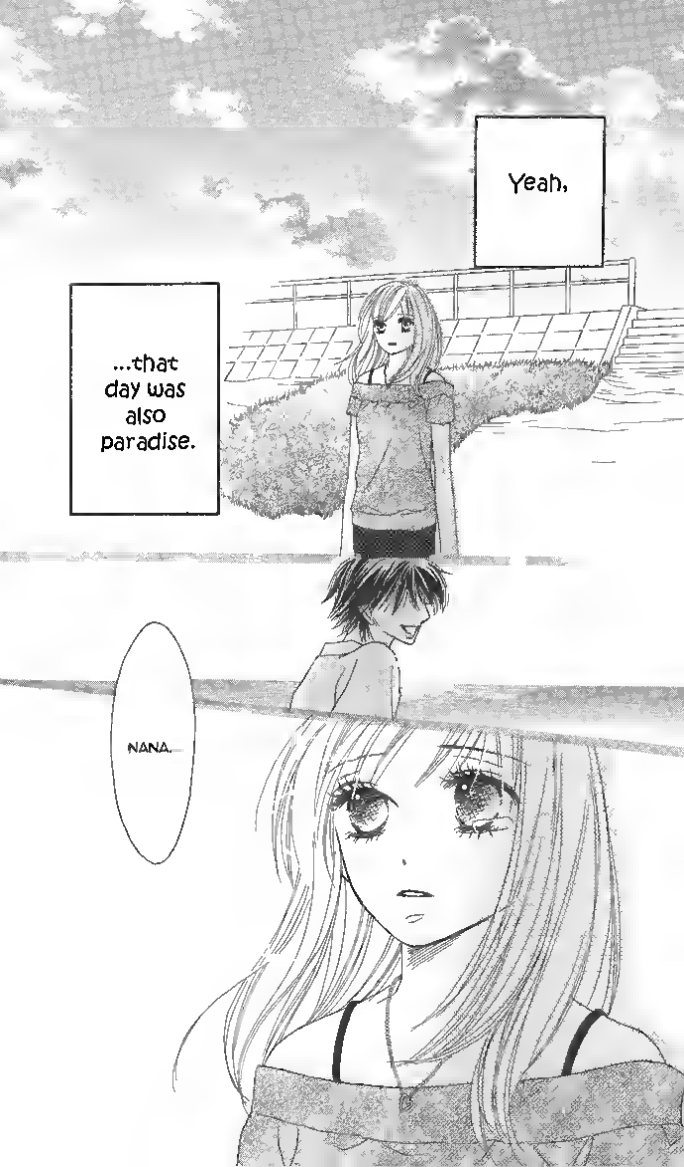
I'M GLAD
I MET
YOU...


Those short 6 months...
...really felt much longer than that.
Also, Shougo...
...really did keep his promise.

AH, MOM?
IT'S NANA
THE KIMONO FOR THE COMING OF AGE CEREMONY IS OVER THERE, RIGHT?
CAN I PICK IT UP TOMORROW?
IT'S OKAY
I'VE WALKED DOWN THAT ROAD BY MYSELF A THOUSAND TIMES
CLACK
OK, THANKS
LATER

Even now,
...the memories from then are so clear.
They'll never disappear from my heart.
Nana

No matter where I was,
...if Shougo was with me,
I was in paradise.


Yeah,
...that day was also paradise.
NANA

I will never see...
...that paradise again,
CLICK
Clack Clack
TAP
TAP
TAP
I'M HOME.
...but even so...

<Ruikan> End / Publication in the Internet June 2004 Edition

Credits

Scanner : book

C[illegible] : aeringes

Typesetter : Nexyme

T[illegible]lator : Brozza

Proofreader : Tyka

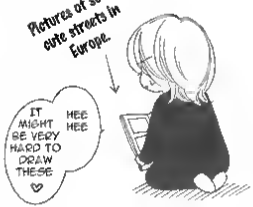
QC-ed : attract-extra

Midnight Scans

Summer
Rain

I'm one of those manga-ka that rarely draws school life manga. I've drawn manga that has taken place at the beach before, and now I'm drawing manga that takes place in rural areas. "What is location going to be in your next manga?" That question is something that even my assistants have asked me, and my answer, most of the time, is "I'm not too sure." Isn't this interesting?

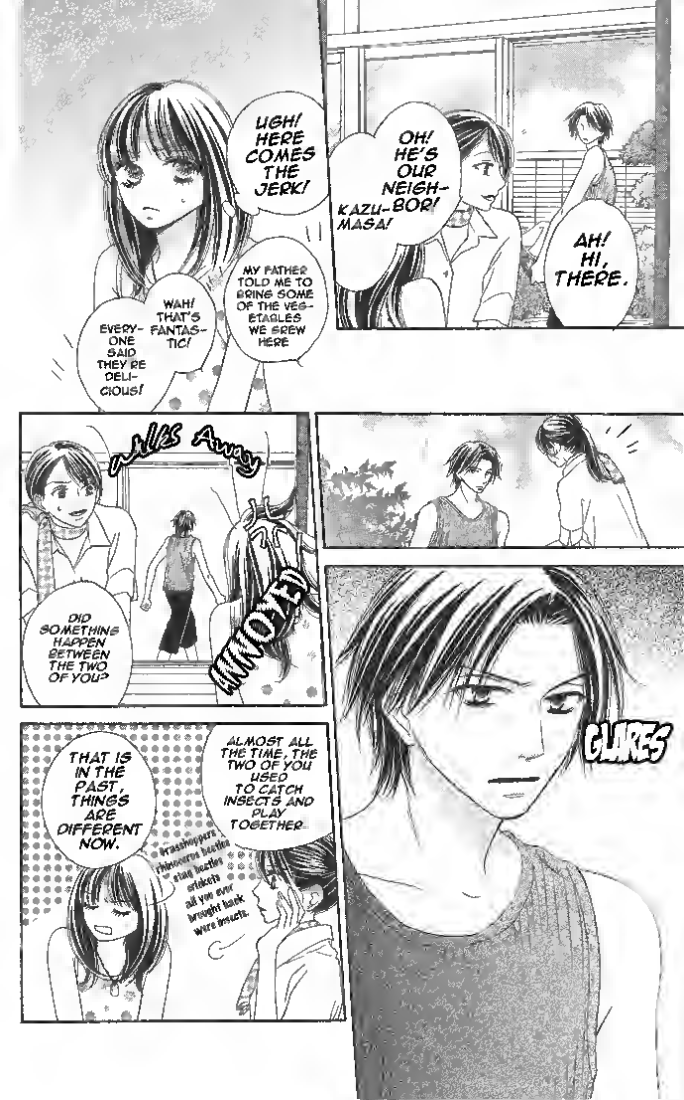
While I'm looking at my vacation photos, I'm also secretly planning which country I would like to visit next. Please don't give me suggestions like "How about traveling into space?!" because I might actually consider going. You really don't try sarcasm on me!



I've always spent my summer vacation alone
Whenever I come here, I'm always very bored and lonely
This is definitely not what I had in mind for my summer vacation.
FATHER-IN-LAW, MOTHER-IN-LAW,
I'M SORRY FOR TROUBLING YOU AGAIN
Chirp
Chirp
NARIKO!
HURRY UP AND COME HERE!
Sigh
Chirp
Chirp

IT LOOKS LIKE THEY REALLY DON'T WANT US HERE
.....
OH..
YOU'RE HERE AL-READY
.....
AH, OKA-SAN!
WHY DO WE SPEND OUR VACATION HERE EVERY TIME?
EVEN THOUGH THIS USED TO BE WHERE OTOU-SAN LIVED GROWING UP
My father
IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT THEY WOULD WANT TO KNOW THAT YOU'RE GROWING UP HEALTHILY!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! YOU'RE THEIR GRAND-DAUGH-TER!
OTOU-SAN HAS ALREADY PASSED AWAY,
SO WE'RE NO LONGER RELATED TO THEM!

Otou-san passed away before I was born,
so my mother had to single-handedly raise me
They insisted on bringing me into this world despite family opposition from my grandparents thus creating a lot of rumors
IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH HAVING A SHARE OF THE INHERITANCE,
WHICH I'M NOT EVEN INTERESTED IN!
FURTHERMORE
WHENEVER ...
I RECALL THAT THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE SORA, YOUR FATHER, GREW UP,
I FEEL LIKE COMING HERE.
I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE OTOU-SAN'S NAME IS REALLY STRANGE
OKA-SAN, WHY DON'T YOU COME HERE ALONE?
WHAT?!
HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT AFTER HEARING EVERYTHING I'VE SAID TO YOU?!
AH, YOUR FATHER! HIS DREAMS.
OKAY, I UNDERSTAND
I've heard this more than enough times already.


AH! HI, THERE.
OH! HE'S OUR NEIGH-BOR! KAZU-MASA!
MY FATHER TOLD ME TO BRING SOME OF THE VEG-ETABLES WE GREW HERE
UGH! HERE COMES THE JERK!
WAH! THAT'S FANTAS-TIC!
EVERY-ONE SAID THEY'RE DELI-CIOUS!
Walks Away
ANNOYED
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU?
GLARES
ALMOST ALL THE TIME, THE TWO OF YOU USED TO CATCH INSECTS AND PLAY TOGETHER.
a wasshoy-pora rhinocoros beetles stag beetles crickets all you ever brought back were insects.
THAT IS IN THE PAST, THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOW.

I DON'T LIKE IT HERE!
OKA-SAN, ARE WE GOING HOME TOMOR-ROW?!
I WANT TO---
Don't you need to run the restaurant?
OKA-SAN...!
AH!
I FORGOT TO GIVE THEM OUR GIFTS.
BUT TAKE A LOOK AT HIM NOW!
NOW HE'S MUCH MORE TALLER AND
EVEN MORE HANDSOME THAN HE WAS BEFORE!
HAND-SOME?!
Not at all!!
HUH?!

...
NARIKO

NARIKO! WE'RE CALLING YOU!
AH! COMING!
HE DISAP-PEARED. ..
Mumble
Mumble
IS HE KAZU-MASA'S FRIEND?
SHE'S NOT SHOWING UP FAST ENOUGH EVEN AFTER WE CALLED HER OVER TWICE!
ANYWAYS, SHE'S EX-ACTLY LIKE MY STUPID SON! "HE ALSO COULDN'T BLEND INTO OUR FAMILY!"
That's not true!

SHE'S THE REASON WHY YOU CAN'T REMARRY!
MOTHER-IN-LAW!
There's no air-conditioning here.
THE WEATHER IS SO WARM THAT I CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON READING
MAYBE I CAN FIND A COOLER PLACE TO READ
CHIRP
CHIRP
.....
REALIZATION

Glares
I DIDN'T INTEND TO HELP OUT
IF YOU HATE LIVING IN THE COUNTRY,
THEN YOU SHOULD GO BACK AND BE A CITY DWELLER!
YOUR OUTFIT...
Western dress
...LOOKS REALLY INAPPROPRIATE TO HELP AROUND THE HOUSE.
Sandals
Why would he say this to me...?!
I HATE YOU!
~~~ TSK!
I HATE THIS PLACE AND EVERYONE HERE!
I HATE EVERY-THING!!
~~~

Your father's dream was that...
if he ever had a daughter,
he would want to kiss and hug her forever.
ARE THERE STILL FISH IN THERE...?

What if he had a son?
Then he'll play baseball, and drink with him!
As usual, that was all he ever said!
Oka-san...
He wanted her to keep on telling him...
...that she'll be his bride.
...likes to tell me things about Otou-san
Aren't we doing okay with just the two of us...?
WAH
---!
But...
I WONDER WHETHER OKA-SAN IS INTERESTED IN REMARRYING.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE SPOKE IN SUCH A CHEERFUL MANNER
RUSTLE

WHAT ...
GRAB
EH?
What are you trying to do?!
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
EH?
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF JUMPING!
Ahh This river...
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING ?!
DON'T BE IRRATIONAL!!
I SHOULD BE THE ONE SAYING THAT ---!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

ANYWAY, THIS RIVER IS TOO SHALLOW TO DROWN ANYONE
WHEN THERE'S A STORM, THE WATER RISES FAST IT'S DANGEROUS!
EVEN IF THAT'S TRUE
Gasp!
YOU.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CRY.
Crying
I WAS ...
... SHOCKED
He's crying...
THIS PERSON IS THE SAME GUY WHO I MET AT THE HOUSE
DRIP
DRIP
because he's worried about me...?

RAINING
Drip
Drip
Drip
IT'S RAINING ...
POINTS
LET'S GO UNDER THE TREE
THIS SHOULD BE FINE TO USE AS A SHELTER FROM THE RAIN
.....
THUMP
DO YOU LIVE HERE?
YES.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
KAN.

HOW DID YOU... KNOW MY NAME?
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A REAL NAME
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN LOOKING AT YOU, NARIKO
BECAUSE I'VE BEEN LOOKING AT YOU.
STANDING HERE, TALKING TO YOU ...
... FEELS LIKE A DREAM.

Opens
I OVER-SLEPT ..
SILENCE
I'm always alone during my summer vacation.

It feels like no one cares about me.
I've always been looking at you.
IS IT FOR REAL?
I'm only here during summer...
Knock Knock
AH ...!
LET'S GO OUT AND PLAY TO-GETHER!
Go and change your outfit!
EH ...?
What...?
AH——!♡

THIS IS SO MUCH FUN
WAH! YOU'RE SO FAST!
I WON'T LOSE TO YOU!
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
And again..
THUD
Ah~
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU WOULD ENJOY THIS SO MUCH!
HA! HA!
Ah!
ARE YOU OKAY?
WHEN I WAS LITTLE,
I USED TO...
OFTEN PLAY WITH KAZU-MASA.

WHEN I WAS LITTLE,
I USED TO ENJOY PLAYING WITH THIS GIRL,
WHO LOOKS A LOT LIKE YOU, NARIKO.
IS... SHE DEAD...?
That girl?
AHA HAHA
SHE'S ALIVE AND WELL.

I WOULD LOVE TO...
LIVE HAPPILY BESIDE HER.
By that, does he mean...
HEY,
..DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT AGAIN TOMOR-ROW?

Every-day,
Just be patient.
...we innocently did things that only children would do
No wonder I wasn't catching anything!
AH! THE BAIT IS GONE!
HAND ME THE SQUID.
After that day, he came visit me everyday
I can't believe I let you lead me back to catch crayfish
UMM .. HEY, AREN'T THERE SUPPOSED TO BE CRAYFISH IN MORE SHALLOW AREAS?
DON'T EAT IT!!
HMMM?
Munch
Munch
He was always such an annoying brat!
Maybe I keep staying by him, no matter what happens, because I'm always lonely.

DO YOU WANT TO GIVE IT A TRY?
!
I kept staying by him
no matter what happens,
LAUGH
LAUGH
ARE YOU SURE?
GULP
BA-DUM!!
In the past, no one
I NO! DON'T WANT TO!
THERE'S NO NEED TO DO IT!
WHAT'S WRONG ? I could do it

has ever smiled at me like the way he does
UNH...
EH?
NARIKO?
WAAAAH
WHY... ARE YOU CRYING?

IF OTOU-SAN...
IF ONLY OTOU-SAN WERE STILL ALIVE,
WHY DID HE HAVE TO DIE?!
I WOULD BE ABLE TO GET ALONG WITH MY GRAND-PARENTS
WE CAN ALSO COME HERE FOR SUMMER VACATION AS A FAMILY
I'M SURE WE WOULD HAVE A GOOD TIME.
OKA-SAN,
...WHY DID SHE GIVE BIRTH TO ME?
. SINCE SHE KNEW THAT OTOU-SAN WAS GOING TO DIE,

HINCH
NARIKO!
IF ONLY I WASN'T BORN...
DON'T SAY THAT!!
TEARS FALLING
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
...SUCH THINGS
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT, NARIKO

DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS
Drip
It's raining...
Drip
Drip
Sniff
WHEN-EVER I CRY,
IT'LL DEFINITELY RAIN
THE SKY IS CRYING!
NARIKO!
THIS IS JUST A COINCI-DENCE, RIGHT?
ISN'T IT COMMON TO RAIN HERE?
DIDN'T IT HAPPEN EARLIER?

I'M SURE THERE'S ...
SOME-ONE WHO LIKES YOU,
AND HE COULD BE THE PERSON THAT IS ALWAYS NEAR YOU!
Nariko, perhaps you haven't noticed,
but there're a lot of people who like you.
WAH! YOU PREPARED A BENTO FOR ME?
YES.
I can't wait to eat it!
I'VE ALSO ...

MADE LUNCH FOR MY GRAND-PARENTS I PUT IT ON THE TABLE,
Five preferred lunch. If you don't mind, could you please try it? Nanao
, BUT I WONDER
WHETHER OR NOT THEY'LL EAT IT.
P&L
P&L
What are you doing?
Peek
Thanks for the lunch.
HEY!

KAZU-MASA!
I'M RETURNING THE PLATE.
THEY INVITED ME OVER LUNCH.
SEEMS LIKE THEY WERE HAVING A HARD TIME FINISHING IT
I PREPARED TOO MUCH
I WAS SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THAT
YOU'RE ACTUALLY PRETTY GOOD AT COOKING
Especially the egg roll.
EH...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY SUR-PRISED?!
MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME WELL!
IS THAT SO?
AH! WAIT..

HERE ARE SOME EGGS THAT WERE LAID BY OUR HENS!
IT'LL TASTE EVEN BETTER WITH THESE!!
Are you ordering me to use them!?
Yes. I'm ordering you to use them!!
CLUCK
CLUCK
My boring
and lonely summer vacation.

..Because of him
..has changed

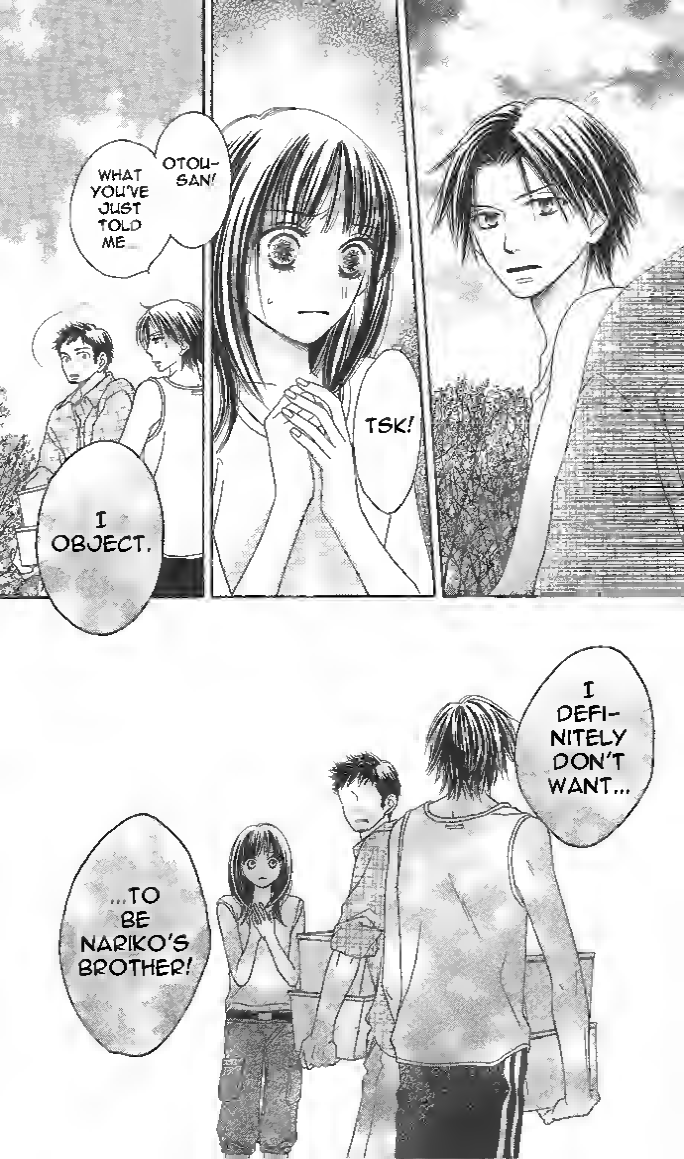
SHE'S LATE.
OKA-SAN...
She's here!
The restaurant is closed for today
DIDN'T OKA-SAN MENTION THAT SHE'S COMING OVER TONIGHT?
I'M SORRY FOR TROUBLING YOU WHEN IT'S SO LATE
NOT AT ALL! I'M A BACHELOR,
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IT
That person...
is Kazumasa's father.

What's going on...?
WELL, GOOD NIGHT.
WELL, SAEKO-SAN
IF IF YOU DON'T MIND
UMM
DO YOU
...WANT TO GO OUT WITH ME?
EH? I'M SORRY THIS IS TOO SUDDEN
BUT,
SINCE WAY BACK THEN

Now that I think about it, the vegetables in Oka-san's restaurant were restocked with vegetables from Kazuma's father.
What the...?!
Why does it have to be like this?!
B-but... But... But...!
.....
THERE'S SOME-THING I WANT...
NARIKO?
ARE YOU ALREADY ASLEEP?
CLICK

IF WE THINK POSI-TIVELY
ISN'T THIS GOOD?
Otou's dream...
.....
NARIKO-CHAN!

AH...
GOOD MORNING
EH ---
WELL,
...HAS YOUR MOTHER MENTION ANYTHING TO YOU?
.....
EH?
WHAT'S WRONG?
ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?
GASP
SLAP

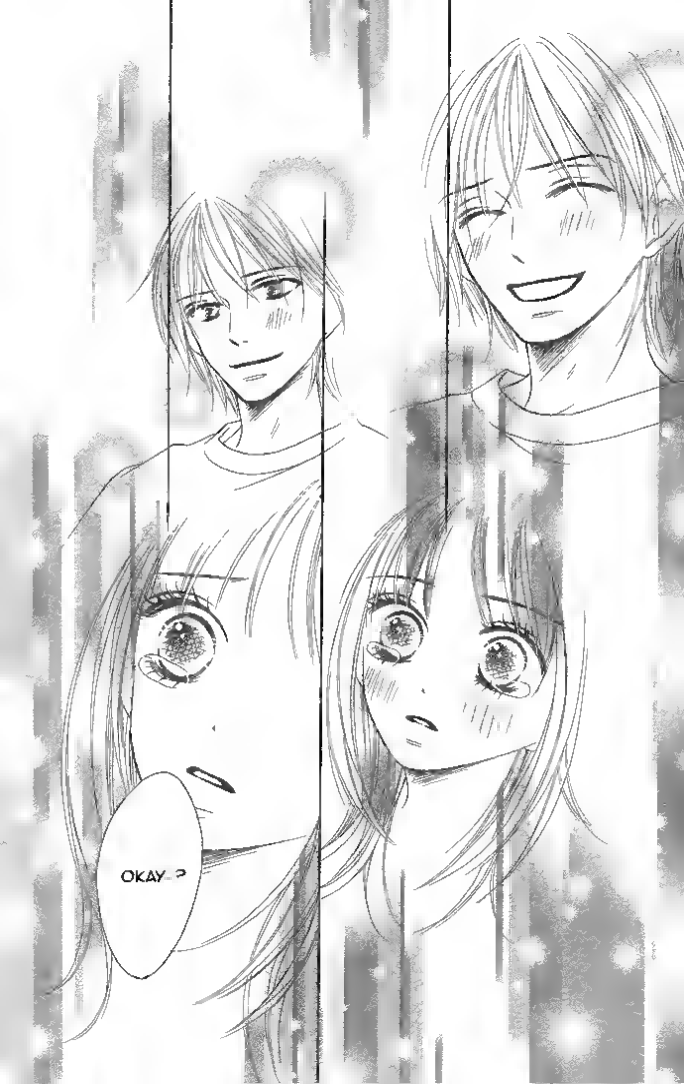

OTOU-SAN!
WHAT YOU'VE JUST TOLD ME...
I OBJECT.
TSK!
I DEFI-NITELY DON'T WANT...
...TO BE NARIKO'S BROTHER!

HEY... HEY! KAZU-MASA!
WHY DID YOU...
CLANK
SNISH
SNISH
SNISH
SNISH
SNISH
THE PLAN FOR..
REMAR-RYING IS CRUSHED.

WHAT DID YOU DO...
...TO MAKE KAZUMASA DETEST YOU SO MUCH?!
HOW WOULD I KNOW?
SWISH
WHEN IT CONCERNS YOUR MOTHER'S HAPPINESS, WHY CAN'T YOU BE MORE HELPFUL?!
THAT'S WHY
WE WERE OPPOSED

...TO THE DECISION OF HER GIVING BIRTH TO YOU.
PLEASE!
WHAT'S WRONG?
.....

IF I'M GONE, EVERYTHING WILL BE BETTER!
OKA-SAN WILL BE HAPPY
TAKE ME AWAY!
TAKE ME FAR AWAY FROM MY FAMILY!
HAH...
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE PROPOSING TO ME
LET'S GET MARRIED!
YES...
THAT ALSO SOUNDS GOOD


OKAY...?

I finally understand...
I see...
She looks a lot like you, Nariko.
I...
All he did was...
I...
...smile.

I don't think I can change into that person...
ZAA
ZAAA
ZAAA
THE TYPHOON WE'RE EXPERIENCING RIGHT NOW SEEMS TO HAVE NO THOUGHT OF WEAKENING
IT'S CONTINUING NORTH
SAEKO, HURRY UP AND CLOSE THAT
AH, MOTHER-IN-LAW!
ANY NEWS ABOUT NARIKO YET?

Whoooosh
za
aa
za
aa
CRACKLE
I'M ALMOST HOME
CRACKLE
AH, THE RAIN IS LETTING UP A LITTLE
Dup
Dup
Dup
SLIP
!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO DROWN MYSELF
DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS TO WALK AROUND DURING A TYPHOON?
GRAB
IF YOU KEEP STANDING HERE,
YOU WILL GET SWEPT AWAY AND DROWN!
THEN, I'LL GET TO SEE OTOU-SAN
DO YOU THINK
Grabbed
THAT HUR
YOUR FATHER WILL BE HAPPY TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS?!

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STOP SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT!
.....
He's crying.
ZAAA
.....
WHY?!
...again?
ZAAA

RAINING
WHY AREN'T YOU ANSWERING ME?
AS LONG AS YOU'RE WITH ME!
I
EVEN IF I'M JUST A REPLACEMENT!
NARIKO!
THAT'S NOT IT
I DON'T REGARD YOU AS A REPLACEMENT FOR HER

I LOVE YOU.

BUT,
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT WE CAN STAY TOGETHER FOREVER.
THERE'LL BE A TIME WHEN I'LL HAVE TO...
HAND YOU TO SOME OTHER GUY
WH
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE PERSON STANDING AT THE END OF THE AISLE YOU'LL WALK DOWN,
YOUR HUSBAND

AT THAT TIME,
I WILL DEFINITELY BE CRYING
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I DON'T UNDER-STAND.
I completely don't under-stand...
LOOK, HE'S COME FOR YOU.

NARIKO!
I HEARD THAT YOU WENT MISSING!
I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU!
WHY..?
KAZU KAZU-MASA?
DON'T MOVE!
I'M COMING OVER!

KAZU
KAZU-MASA! YOUR LEG!
You're injured!
THUD
I'M OKAY!
GIVE ME YOUR HAND!!

I LOVE YOU THE MOST.
NARIKO,
I'LL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU
I'LL FOR-EVER...

...LOVE YOU.
WHOOOOOSH
KAN...

IDIOT_!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
DIDN'T YOU SEE HIM?!
KAN IS BESIDE THE RIVER-BED_!
NO ONE'S THERE!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IMPOS-SIBLE_!
HE'S RIGHT THERE!
HE'S TALKING TO ME!
YOU
.....

Prologue
I'll forever love you.
HAVE YOU BEEN SEEING A GHOST...?

Chatter
Chatter
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!
YOU NEED TO CALM DOWN
I'VE SAID SUCH HORRIBLE THINGS TO HER...!
MY SON, WHOM I HAD DIFFICULTY GETTING ALONG WITH, HAS ALREADY PASSED AWAY
EVEN THOUGH I WAS FILLED WITH REGRETS...

NARIKO!
ARE YOU OKAY?
NARI-
SILLY GIRL! WHERE DID YOU GO?
WE WERE ALL SO WORRIED!
I'M SORRY
Wh-!
KAZUMASA! WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID YOU GET HURT?
I'M OKAY! STOP FUSSING OVER ME!
WH-T DO YOU MEAN?
YOU NEED TO GO TO THE DOCTOR!
I THINK IT'LL NEED AT LEAST FOUR OR FIVE STITCHES

NARIKO
Do you feel like fainting?
Yes, both of them are safe and sound
NARIKO!
NARIKO, HURRY UP AND TAKE A SHOWER.
Why...?
Why did I think that nobody cared about me?

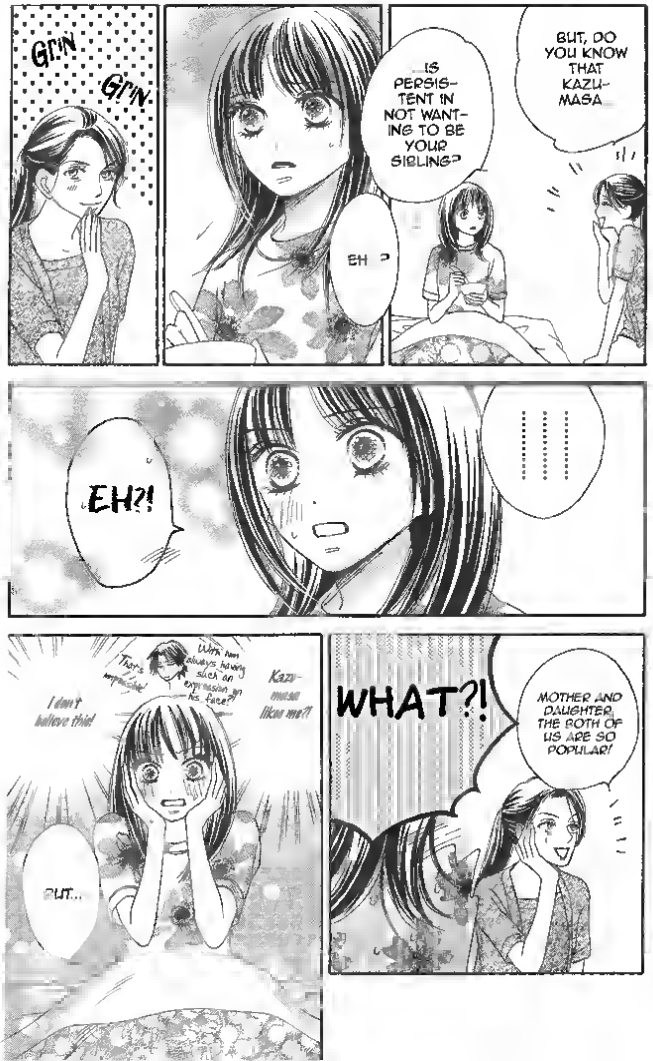
OJII-SAN,
OBAA-SAN,
I WON'T DIE SO SOON
I...
EVEN IF PEOPLE SAY HORRIBLE THINGS TO ME,
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
I STILL WANT TO GET ALONG WITH THE BOTH OF YOU...
BECAUSE I'LL BE AROUND FOR A LONG TIME!
If...

Dizzy
Otou-san was still alive I'm sure he would want this too.
AH!
NARIKO!
NARIKO, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WAH
Someone, help!
WAH
Wah! She fainted!
When I lost my consciousness,
I still clearly understood
who the person I've met was.

And, I also know that
I'll never see him again.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING? HOW'S THE FEVER?
I'M FINE. THE FEVER IS GOING DOWN
I'M NOT HUNGRY RIGHT NOW
NO! YOU MUST EAT!
THAT'S GOOD
SLEEP AFTER YOU EAT YOUR DINNER
HERE'S SOME EGG PORRIDGE
KAZUMASA BROUGHT SOME EGGS OVER
The egg yolk was so thick!
THAT WERE LAID JUST TODAY
EVEN THOUGH HIS LEG WAS BANDAGED, HE SEEMS TO BE DOING FINE
.....

IF YOU WANT TO REMARRY, IT'S OKAY WITH WITH ME
OH, YEAH, OKA-SAN
.....
SO
OKAY?
ACTUALLY, KAZU-MASA DOESN'T DETEST ME
AS MUCH AS WE IMAGINED
I'M SURE WE'LL GET ALONG OKAY
LAUGH
I SEE


GI'N
GI'N
EH ?
IS PERSIS-TENT IN NOT WANT-ING TO BE YOUR SIBLING?
BUT, DO YOU KNOW THAT KAZU-MASA
EH?!
WHAT?!
MOTHER AND DAUGHTER, THE BOTH OF US ARE SO POPULAR!
I don't believe this!
Kazu-masa like me?!
BUT...

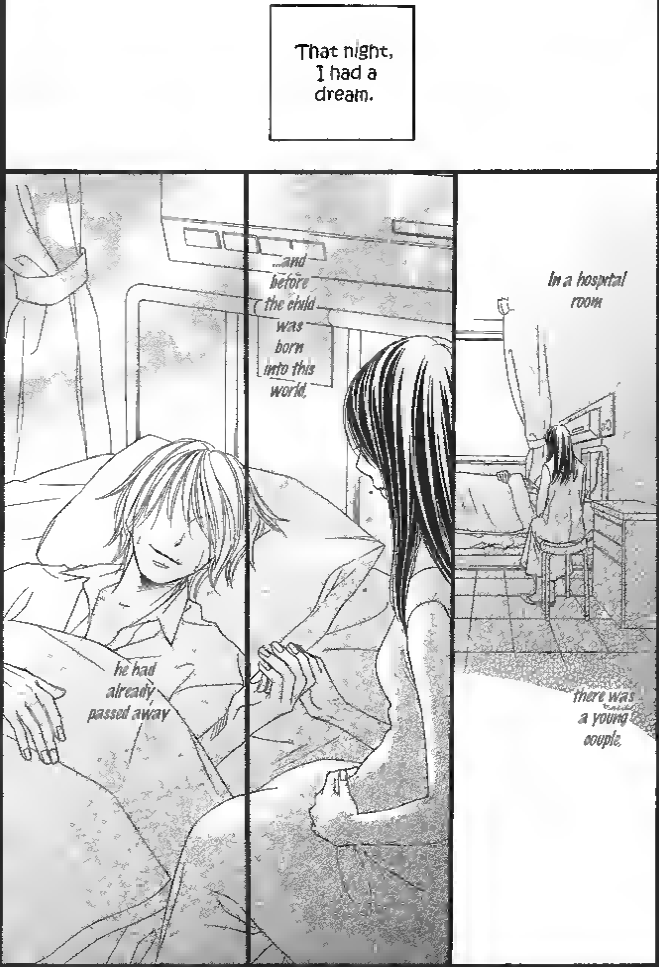
...EVEN IF THIS DIDN'T HAPPEN,
I GUESS, I STILL WOULDN'T BE CONSIDERING REMARRYING
I'M SORRY, NARIKO...
HOWEVER, I
FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR FUTURE,
PERHAPS REMARRYING WILL BE A BETTER CHOICE
...STILL CAN'T FORGET ABOUT HIM!

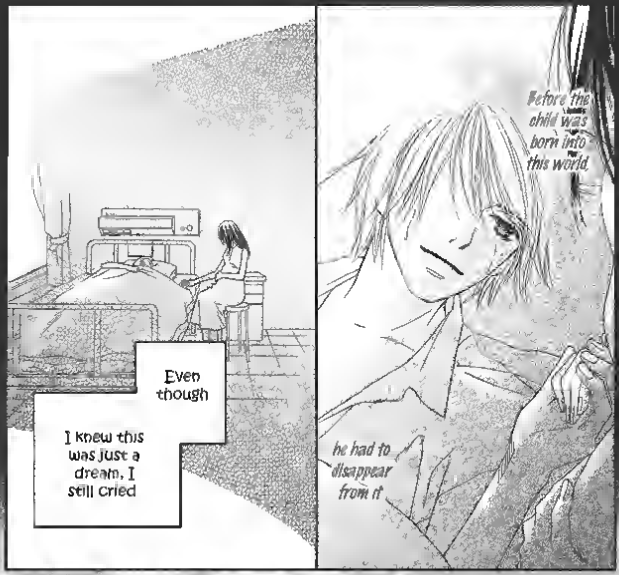
EVEN AFTER I KNEW THAT HE WOULDN'T LIVE THAT MUCH LONGER,
I STILL WANTED TO KEEP THE EVI-DENCE...
THAT PROVED THAT HE WAS ALIVE
AND THAT SHOWED HE LOVED ME
EVEN THOUGH I KNEW THAT IT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH,
How are you going to make a living?
It's going be difficult for you to remarry
and you'll also invite rumors!
Father-in-law, mother-in-law,
but...
I...
I STILL WANTED TO GIVE BIRTH TO YOU!

I'M SORRY!
AH!
WAS OTOU-SAN'S NAME...
KAN?
I'M USED TO CALLING HIM SORA,
...BUT
HIS NAME ACTUALLY IS KAN
.....
YES, IT WAS

WHO TOLD YOU THIS?
YOU AND OTOU-SAN... DID THE BOTH OF YOU SLIDE DOWN HILLS USING CARDBOARD BOXES?
YES!
HOW DID YOU FIND ABOUT THIS?
I want to kiss and hug my daughter
I also want to hear her say 'I want to marry Otou-san.'

He was smiling
because his dreams came true.
I'm so fortunate to be Otou-san's and Oka-san's child!
Thank you for loving me!
Thank you for giving birth to me!


That night, I had a dream.
In a hospital room
there was a young couple.
...and before the child was born into this world,
he had already passed away


Even though
I knew this was just a dream, I still cried
Before the child was born into this world,
he had to disappear from it

IS THE GOWN TOO TIGHT, NARIKO?
I'M ALREADY IN MY FIFTH MONTH!
ISN'T THIS OBVIOUS?!
WILL THE TWO OF YOU PLEASE ENTER THE CHURCH?
OKAY.
KAZUMASA, YOUR FACE IS TURNING PALE
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M VERY NERVOUS

I'LL
NEVER DIE AND FORSAKE THE TWO OF YOU
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT
Holding the hand of the groom standing across the red carpet...
AH!
EH...?
NO WAY! THE WEATHER REPORTS SAID IT'S GOING TO BE 100% SUNNY TODAY
I remember...

IT'S RAINING...

These memo-ries...
HE'S CRYING.
IT'S TRUE,

OH, DEAR...
KAZU-MASA...
They definitely, definitely,
will stay with me forever.

Do you want to hear a story?
DO YOU WANT TO HEAR A STORY?
...let me tell you a story about summer.

Credits

Scanner : book

Cleaner : scanlations

Typesetter : Anaona Hime

Translator : Manacker

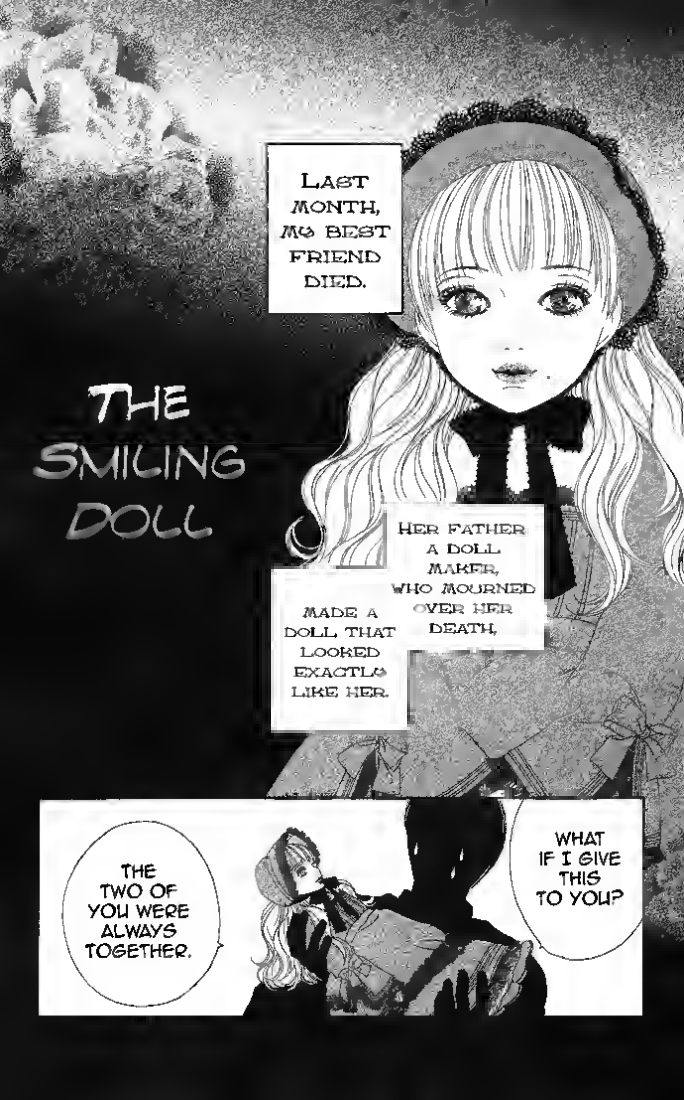
Proofreader : Tyla

QC - en : attack.cuts

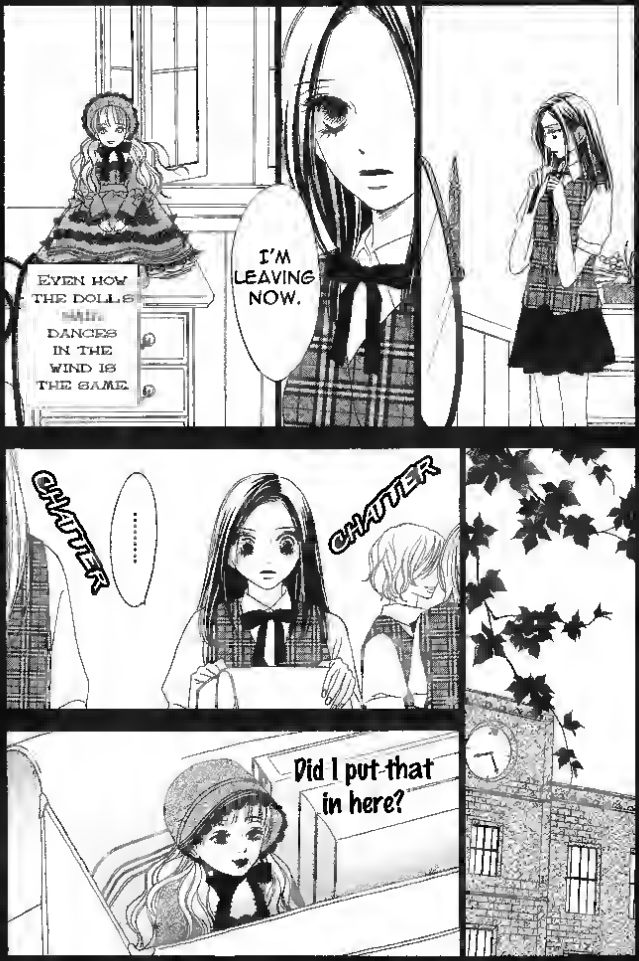
Midnight scans

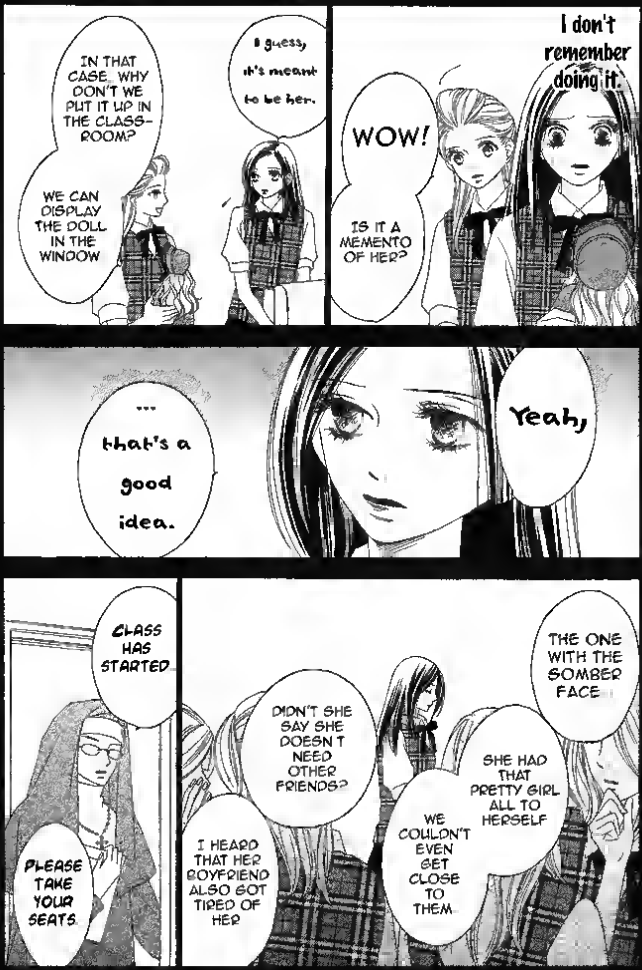
Welcome Shoujo

Everyone, I have a favor to ask.
I don't talk that much, so please
don't say anything either.
It's the younger generation!!
Anyway, please read on


LAST MONTH, MY BEST FRIEND DIED.
THE SMILING DOLL
HER FATHER A DOLL MAKER, WHO MOURNED OVER HER DEATH,
MADE A DOLL THAT LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE HER.
THE TWO OF YOU WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER.
WHAT IF I GIVE THIS TO YOU?

I THINK THAT THE GIRL, WHO WAS ALREADY SO MUCH LIKE A DOLL,
WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY HAPPY TO TURN INTO ONE.
THE GIRL,
WHO FELL FROM THE TOP OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING AND INTO THE POOL, WAS FOUND FLOATING ON THE SURFACE.


EVEN HOW THE DOLLS DANCES IN THE WIND IS THE SAME.
I'M LEAVING NOW.
CHATTER
.....
CHATTER
Did I put that in here?

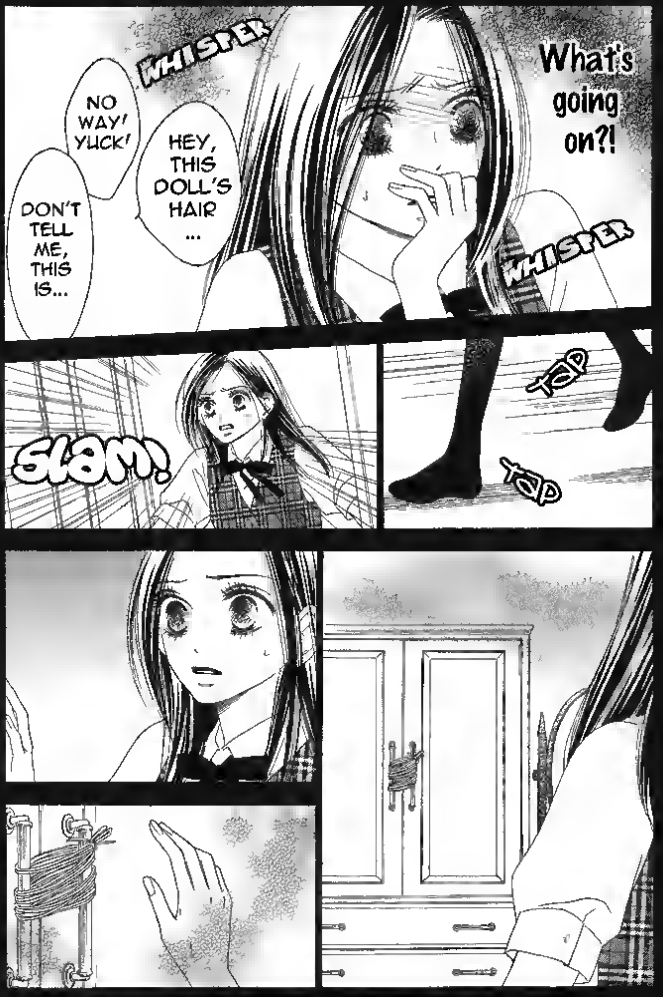

I don't remember doing it.
WOW!
IS IT A MEMENTO OF HER?
I guess, it's meant to be her.
IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T WE PUT IT UP IN THE CLASS-ROOM?
WE CAN DISPLAY THE DOLL IN THE WINDOW
Yeah,
... that's a good idea.
THE ONE WITH THE SOMBER FACE
SHE HAD THAT PRETTY GIRL ALL TO HERSELF
WE COULDN'T EVEN GET CLOSE TO THEM
DIDN'T SHE SAY SHE DOESN'T NEED OTHER FRIENDS?
I HEARD THAT HER BOYFRIEND ALSO GOT TIRED OF HER
CLASS HAS STARTED
PLEASE TAKE YOUR SEATS

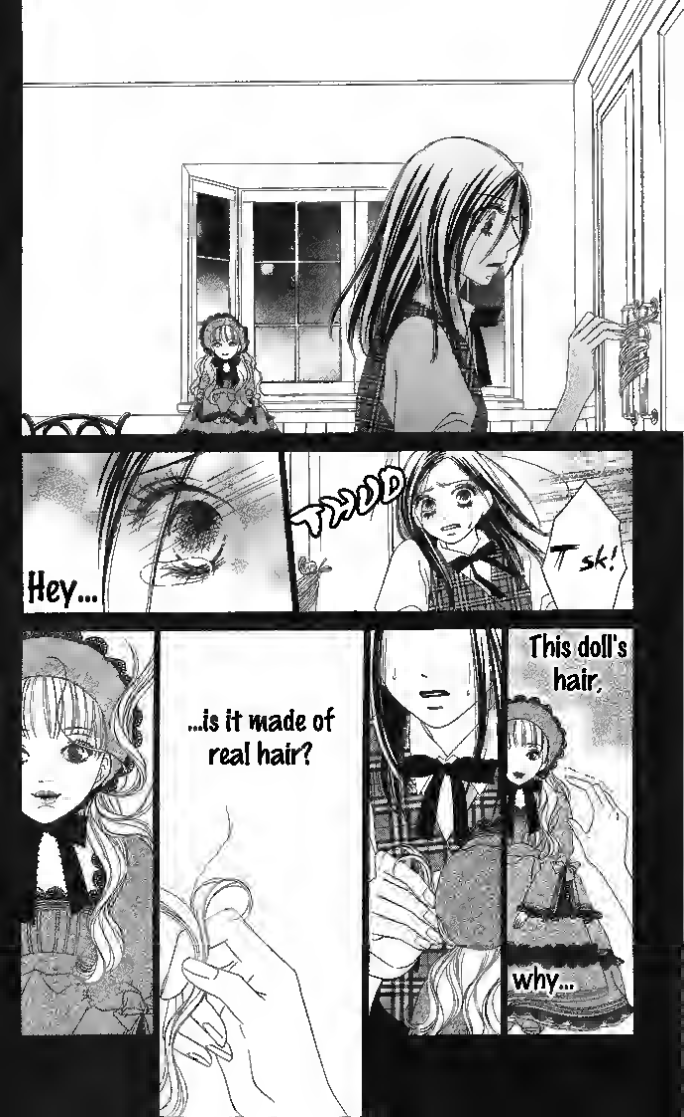
No...
Always---
It's better to leave it in the classroom.
THEN, LET'S CONTINUE FROM WHERE WE LEFT OFF.
NUMBER 15. PLEASE READ
YES.
We were always together
CHIP
CHIP

How...?!
I left it in the classroom!
I don't even remember bringing it home!
This is so creepy!
SLAM!
TIES
TIES

That's it,
I'm just tired.
I'm probably just being paranoid.
.....
HEY ...
THE DOLL'S GONE.
AH ...
DON'T THINK IT'S YOU.
BUT COULD I CHECK YOUR BAG

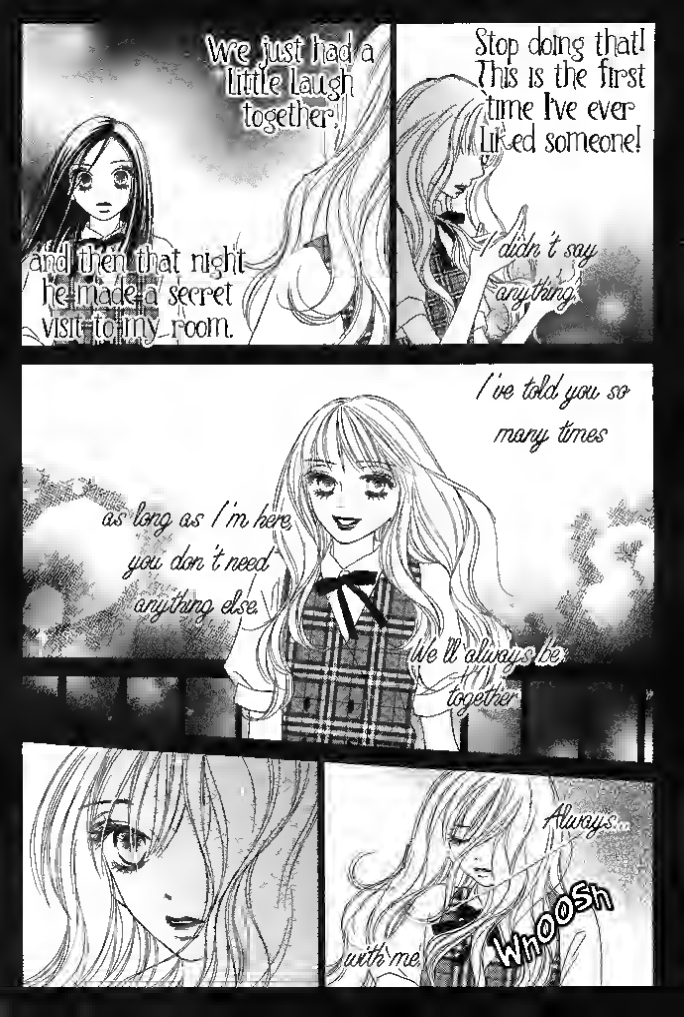
Ah...
IT'S NOT THERE, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT HERE.
Rattle
SEE, YOU TOOK IT, DIDN'T YOU?
N... No!
Gasp

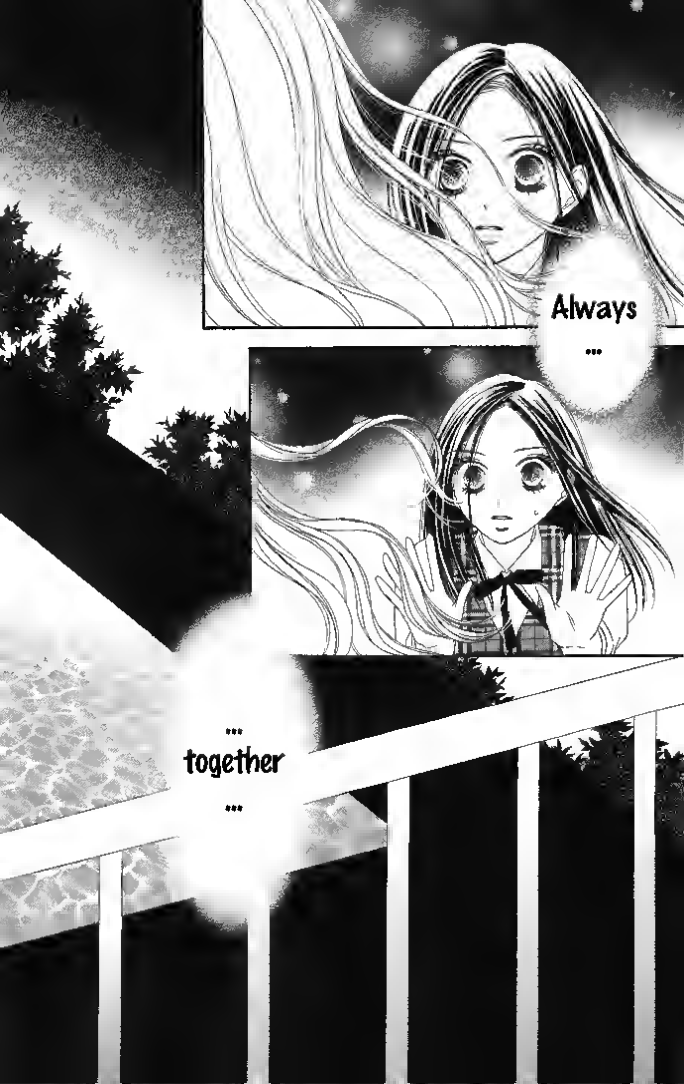

WHISPER
What's going on?!
HEY, THIS DOLL'S HAIR ...
NO WAY! YUCK!
DON'T TELL ME, THIS IS...
WHISPER
TAP
TAP
SLAM!

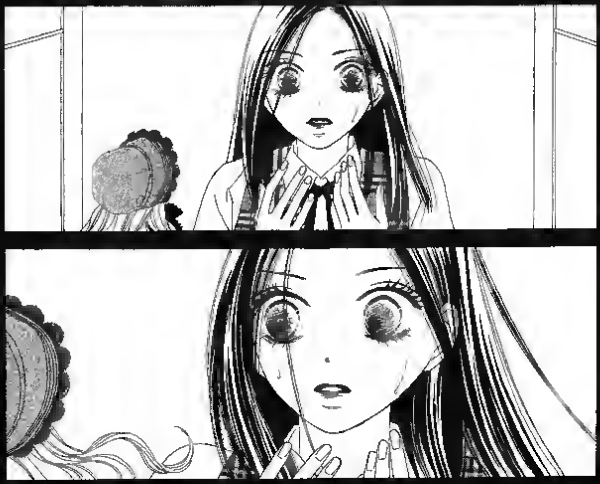

Hey...
T sk!
This doll's hair,
why...
...is it made of real hair?

I DON'T WANT THIS ANYMORE!
Grab
Click
DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

Should I cut my hair?
I think my hair has gotten too long.
"That's not it."
Are you trying to copy me again?
Speaking of which,
lately you've been going to the library a lot to see that person, right?
What did you say to him?
...we don't need any friends.
Hey, you really should stop saying those weird things in class.
We're not the only ones that are there.
As long as I'm with you,


We just had a little laugh together.
and then that night he made a secret visit to my room.
Stop doing that! This is the first time I've ever Liked someone!
I didn't say anything.
I've told you so many times
as long as I'm here, you don't need anything else.
We'll always be together
Always...
with me.
Whoosh

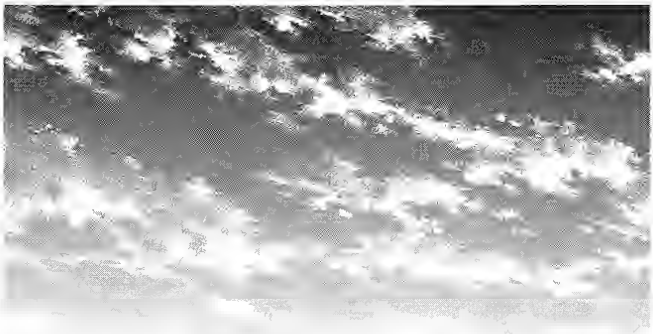

Always
...
...
together
...



...until death.

‹The Smiling Doll› ‡ End ‡

Published in the Bestucomi September 2004 Edition



Hey guys!

We're still looking for Translators, Editors (Cleaners and Typesetters), Proofreaders, Raw Providers, QCers, and Colorists.

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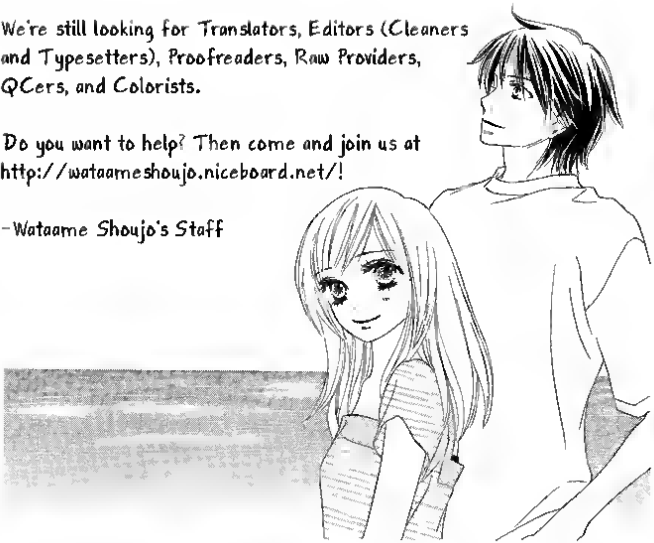
-Wataame Shoujo's Staff



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- Midnight Scans Staff

Credits

Scanner : bosk

Cleaner : acetyes

Typesetter : Aurora Flame

Translation : Brozzar

Proofreader : tylla

QC - er : bosk

Midnight Scans

WATAMME SHOUJO

A LITTLE SWEET STOP FOR SHOUJO LOVERS

WATAAME SHOUJO SCANLATIONS' 1ST ANNIVERSARY

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Idea and PR-ed by Jewelle

Not to mention bloody editors, too
Oh, so it's true?!
Should we offer our help just for them? by joining them for smut
HUH?
It's true?! are you referring to the recruitment ads that midnight scans has put up?
They are looking for— Japanese & Chinese translators!
But but President!
They expect a bloody miracle! Here, help them
Join them now!! Help them with their smut
help them review these forms

NEWLEAF.com
TEAM

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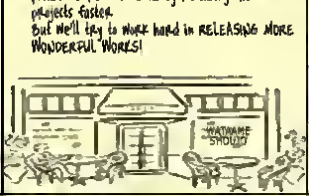

TRANSLATORS NEEDED

for current and brand new projects

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AND WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL

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TO ALL STAFFS AND LOYAL READERS

OF

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